

18 VAC 105-30-10 et seq. Regulations on Certification of Optometrists to Use Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents

**18 VAC 105-30-70. Therapeutic pharmaceutical agents.**

A. A certified optometrist may procure for administration, administer and prescribe the following topically applied pharmaceutical agents (Schedule VI) or any therapeutically appropriate combination thereof. For clarification and reference, the list of approved topical preparations shall be those listed under ~~“Topical Preparations,”~~ subsection ~~“Ophthalmic Products”~~ in Chapter 12 in the current edition of *Drug Facts and Comparisons Updated Monthly* as it is updated monthly, with the exception of injectible ophthalmic agents and otic preparations. (A copy of current approved list will be provided upon request from the Board of Optometry.)

1. Anti-allergy;
2. Anti-glaucoma;
3. Anti-infective;
4. Anti-inflammatory;
5. Cycloplegic and Mydriatic; and
6. Decongestant.

B. A certified optometrist may procure for administration, administer, or prescribe the following oral pharmaceutical agents: narcotic and non-narcotic analgesics limited to Schedule III and VI. For clarification and reference, Schedule III analgesics shall be those oral analgesic preparations containing codeine or hydrocodone in combination with non-narcotic analgesics. Further, the following list of Schedule VI oral analgesic preparations are approved:

Schedule VI oral analgesics:

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs:

- ibuprofen
- ketoralac
- nabumetone
- naproxen sodium
- etodolac
- ketoprofen
- diclofenac sodium or diclofenac potassium
- fenoprofen or fenoprofen calcium

Centrally acting analgesics:

- tramadol hydrochloride

- C. Over-the counter topical and oral medications appropriate to the treatment of the eye may be procured for administration, administered, prescribed or dispensed.
- D. A certified optometrist may prescribe and dispense contact lenses for therapeutic purposes.
- E. A TPA-certified optometrist may inject epinephrine intramuscularly for anaphylactic shock.

## Certification

*I certify that this regulation is full, true, and correctly dated.*

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Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Virginia Board of Optometry

Date: \_\_\_\_\_